



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Newsletter

September 2008

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPSS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

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Funding Opportunities

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program

Application Deadline: Open (an application for funding or technical assistance should be submitted to the OVC Director as soon as practical following a terrorist or mass violence incident)

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) developed the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program to provide timely assistance to jurisdictions to address victim needs in the aftermath of an act of terrorism or mass violence. Applicants can apply for funds for only two situations: to compensate *and* assist victims of terrorism and mass violence that occur within the United States, or to assist victims of terrorism and mass violence that occur outside the United States. The funds available through the program may supplement other resources and services available to jurisdictions responding to acts of terrorism or mass violence. Applicants eligible for funding include state victim assistance and victim compensation programs; public agencies including federal, state, and local governments; and victim service and non-governmental organizations.

For more information: <http://www.ovc.gov/fund/pdf/txt/antiterrorapplication.pdf>.

Helping Outreach Programs to Expand Grant Program

Application Deadline: Open (contingent upon funding availability)

OVC will provide up to \$10,000 each to grassroots community and faith-based victim service organizations and coalitions to help improve their outreach and services to crime victims, through support of program development, networking, coalition building, and service delivery. Funds may be used to develop program literature, train advocates, produce a newsletter, support victim outreach efforts, and recruit volunteers. Eligible applicants include organizations and coalitions operating for at least 1 year that have not received federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) victim assistance grant funding and that have an annual operating budget of \$50,000 or less. All applicants must also have a history of serving crime victims.

For more information: <http://www.ovc.gov/fund/expandingoutreach/welcome.html>.

Research and Publications

Civil Rights Complaints in U.S. District Courts, 1990 - 2006

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report presents findings from an examination of civil rights claims processed in federal district courts from 1990 to 2006. The report includes claims based on race, age, sex, or national origin concerning employment, welfare, housing, voting, or other civil rights discrimination issues. Trends in types of civil cases filed in federal district court, case processing time, disposition of civil rights cases, types of federal court trials, and case findings including monetary amounts awarded are also provided.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/crcusdc06.pdf>.

Parents in Prison and Their Minor Children

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report takes a detailed look at inmates with children under the age of 18 from the 2004 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities. Using data collected from inmates in state and federal prisons in 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, and 2007, the report compares estimates of the number of incarcerated parents and their minor children by gender, age, race, and Hispanic origin. Included in the report are counts of children who were under 18 during their parent's incarceration; background characteristics of parents in prison; children's day care; financial support; current guardians; and the frequency and type of contact children have with their incarcerated parents. Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf>.

Characteristics of State Parole Supervising Agencies, 2006

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report presents information from 52 state parole supervising agencies, during the first six months of 2006. Organized by state, this report details where agencies are located within each state's organizational structure, the number of adult parolees and probationers being supervised, and the number of separate offices operated by the parole agency. Included in the report are national estimates of the number and type of personnel employed by parole supervising agencies and parole supervision caseloads.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cspsa06.pdf>.

Caretaker Satisfaction With Law Enforcement Response to Missing Children

This Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) "Bulletin" summarizes findings from the 1999 Second Incident Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children (NISMART-2) National Household Survey of Adult Caretakers. Part of a series, this Bulletin evaluates primary caregivers' satisfaction with law enforcement after contacting the police when one or more of their children were abducted, ran away, thrown away, missing involuntarily, or missing for benign reasons.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/217909.pdf>.

Sexually Assaulted Children: National Estimates and Characteristics

Based on NISMART-2 interviews with victims and their families, the topic of this OJJDP "Bulletin" is children who have been sexually assaulted in the United States in 1999. The Bulletin includes the estimated number and characteristics of sexually assaulted children derived from two components of the NISMART-2: the National Household Survey of Adult Caretakers and the National Household Survey of Youth.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/214383.pdf>.

Evaluating Children's Advocacy Centers' Response to Child Sexual Abuse

This OJJDP report examines the results of a study evaluating the effectiveness of the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) model in four prominent CACs and compares them to communities without a CAC. Topics discussed include how CACs affect forensic interviewing, child victim disclosures about abuse, medical exams and mental health service provisions, prosecution and conviction of offenders, removal of children from their home, and family satisfaction with child abuse investigations. The report emphasizes the role CACs play in promoting child abuse investigations and suggest areas where the model could be improved.

Access the full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/218530.pdf>.

Juvenile Transfer Laws: An Effective Deterrent to Delinquency?

This OJJDP report summarizes research on the deterrent effects of transferring youth from juvenile to criminal courts. Research on general, specific, and potential deterrent effects of transfer laws on recidivism are discussed and findings from recent OJJDP funded studies are highlighted.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/220595.pdf>.

Juvenile Arrests 2005

This OJJDP report examines and evaluates juvenile arrest data, nationally and by state, from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's report Crime in the United States 2005. Extensive data are provided on the types of crimes for which juveniles have been arrested, as well as the percent change in juvenile arrests, by charge, from 1996 to 2005. The goal of this report is to provide a baseline by which to measure the Nation's progress in addressing juvenile crime.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/218096.pdf>.

Improving Responses to People with Mental Illnesses: The Essential Elements of a Specialized Law Enforcement-Based Program

Prepared by the Council of State Governments Justice Center, in partnership with the Police Executive Research Forum, and published by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, this report details 10 important elements for any specialized law enforcement-based response program. Collected from recommendations made by practitioners and other related experts, the elements are meant to assist communities that are interested in developing a specialized law enforcement-based program or help improve the organization and function of existing programs. The document can also be used as a practical planning tool for the implementation of specialized programs.

Access full text at: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/LE_Essential_Elements.pdf.

Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and the Criminal Justice Response: What is Known

Funded by the National Institute of Justice, this report outlines what is known about the characteristics of violence against American Indian and Alaska Native woman. The report includes the results from an original analysis of homicide data from the Indian Health Service and the Supplementary Homicide Reports, as well as rape and assault data from the National Crime Victimization Survey. Also included is an overview of criminal justice responses to violence against this population. The authors conclude with recommendations for future research.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/223691.pdf>.

Conferences and Trainings

Grant Writing Workshop

September 8-9, 2008 in Winthrop, MA

Winthrop Parks & Recreation and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grant writing workshop to assist both beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county, and state agencies. This workshop will cover how to write grant proposals start to finish and how to locate and track relevant grant opportunities. Tuition is \$425 and includes all materials: workbook and accompanying 220MB resource CD. Seating is limited; online reservations are necessary; walk-ins are not allowed.

For more information: <http://grantwritingusa.com/events/write/wima0908.html> or contact Cathy Rittenhouse at cathy@grantwritingusa.com or Rose Mazzuchelli at speakerro@aol.com.

Healing the Pain of Sexual Abuse: A Restorative Justice Approach

September 18, 2008 in Boston, MA

Presented by the Criminal Justice Committee of National Association of Social Workers, The Massachusetts Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, the Massachusetts Adolescent Sex Offenders Coalition, and the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, this goal of this day-long conference is to promote a restorative justice approach to healing the pain of sexual abuse. The presenter for this conference will be Alisa Klein.

For more information: www.naswma.org.

BJS/JRSA 2008 National Conference: Using Data to Improve Justice Policy and Practice

October 16-17, 2008 in Portland, OR

This Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) conference will focus on the use of statistics and research in the development of justice-related policies and programs nationwide. Criminal justice professionals from all areas of government and academia will share up-to-date data and research and discuss opportunities for improving the quality of these resources. In addition, JRSA will offer pre- and post-conference seminars on mapping, cost benefit analysis, evaluation methods and related issues, forecasting, and statistics.

For more information: <http://www.jrsa.org/events/conference/index.html>.

2008 Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness Conference and Exposition

October 29-31, 2008 in Chicago, IL

Presented by the U.S. Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Defense, this 10th annual conference will highlight technology and training tools currently available and being developed for the emergency responder community. The conference will bring together key leaders and decision makers in an effort to provide emergency responders the opportunity to discuss best practices, exchange ideas, and develop important connections. Approximately 1500 participants are expected to attend.

For more information: <http://www.ctc.org>.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police 115th Annual Conference & Exposition

November 8-12, 2008 in San Diego, CA

Sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, this conference will offer over 100 educational sessions on current issues, trends, and lessons learned from the field. Topics from past conferences include strategies for leading change in police culture, less than lethal issues, online learning and operational support, public law enforcement and private security collaboration, violent crime, use of force issues, training, and case studies.

For more information: <http://www.theiacpconference.org/>.

60th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology

November 12-15, 2008 in St. Louis, MO

Sponsored by the American Society of Criminology, the purpose of this conference is to provide criminal justice professional with a forum to present research findings related to criminal justice topics, as well as new directions for policy and research. Special topics include: innovations in justice research and policy, juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice, problem-oriented and community policing, theories of victimization, and batterer intervention.

For more information: <http://www.asc41.com/annualmeeting.htm>.

22nd Annual National Meeting on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention in Higher Education

November 16-19, 2008 in St. Paul, MN

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, this conference will focus on issues related to alcohol and other drug abuse and violence prevention on college campuses and surrounding communities. The conference provides a forum for participants to discuss a wide array of prevention issues facing college campuses, including alcohol and other drug use, violence, mental health, and emergency preparedness and management.

For more information: www.higheredcenter.org/natl/2008/.

News

The following are excerpts from newspaper articles regarding public safety topics.

Gunshot Detector Finally on Target

***The Boston Globe*, August 4, 2008**

At first, Boston's new \$1.5 million gunshot detection system had its kinks, reports *The Boston Globe*. The ShotSpotter acoustic sensors, which were placed on rooftops and telephone poles in violence-prone areas, would sound an alarm in heavy rain and misclassify it as firecrackers. But nine months since the city began using the high-tech system, police and the company say they have worked out most of the bugs. Police say the system enables officers to respond to gunfire an average of one or two minutes before someone calls 911, assuming someone does. The sensors have recorded 642 instances of gunfire this year, roughly three a day, police say.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/08/04/gunshot_detector_finally_on_target/.

Patrick to Set New Curbs on Police Details

***The Boston Globe*, August 13, 2008**

According to *The Boston Globe*, Governor Deval Patrick is planning to release new regulations that will take on powerful police unions by limiting construction details on nearly all state-owned roads. The plan, which will be developed by the Massachusetts Highway Department, will delineate when police details should be used and when civilians in bright vests with flags will suffice.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/08/13/patrick_to_set_new_curbs_on_police_details/.

Hub Stuck Shuttling Juvenile Suspects

***The Boston Globe*, August 14, 2008**

According to *The Boston Globe*, Boston juveniles suspected of committing crimes are being taken to state lockup facilities as far away as Worcester and New Bedford to await their first court appearance, after the Police Department closed down a city detention center July 1. Boston had run its own juvenile holding facility for years, but mounting expenses prompted the closure of the Mattapan site. The practice results in juveniles being kept farther away from their homes, and patrolling by the officers is reduced. The change reflects the larger struggle to maintain juvenile lockups in accordance with federal guidelines. These pressures could force Massachusetts to reorganize the centers, known as Alternative Lockup Programs, and the way they are funded.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/08/12/hub_stuck_shuttling_juvenile_suspects/.

Billboard to Host New Gun-Control 'Ad'

***The Boston Globe*, August 19, 2008**

The gun-control activist whose provocative billboards have been turning heads along the Massachusetts Turnpike has unveiled one of his most eye-popping messages yet - a fake neon advertisement for American gun shows where people can buy weapons, no questions asked, reports *The Boston Globe*. John Rosenthal, founder and chairman of Stop Handgun Violence, owns the 252-foot-long billboard on his Lansdowne Street parking garage and has been posting his iconic highway messages for 13 years. The new billboard reads "We Sell Guns! No ID required. No background checks. Criminals and terrorists welcome!"

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/08/19/billboard_to_host_new_gun_control_ad/.

Western Mass. College Presidents Say Initiative Will Ease Binge Drinking

***The Republican*, August 25, 2008**

The University of Massachusetts has endorsed a nationwide movement to discuss lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18, report *The Republican*. About 100 college and university presidents have signed onto the Amethyst Initiative, which is aimed in part at stemming the problem of binge drinking. Locally, Smith College, Mount Holyoke College, Hampshire College, and American International College are already on board in support of the measure. Proponents believe that the current legal drinking age is discriminatory and encourages the illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol on campuses.

Access full text at: http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/08/western_mass_college_president.html?category=Amherst&category=Education&category=Northampton&category=South%20Hadley&category=Springfield.

Announcements

Study of Survivors of Sexual Assault

The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center and the Boston VA are conducting a research study for women who have recently been sexually assaulted. If you are a woman over the age of 18 who has been sexually assaulted in the past 4 weeks you may be eligible to participate. Reimbursement is provided for study involvement. The results of the study will be helpful to survivors and those supporting them. If interested, please call Maria at (857) 364-6027 or email study.technician@gmail.com. You will not be asked any questions about the assault when calling or emailing.

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us

Subscription details:

To subscribe to this newsletter send an email to: join-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us

To unsubscribe to this newsletter send an email to: leave-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us

For additional information on EOPSS grant programs or agencies please visit: www.mass.gov/eops